

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
US Appln No. 10/829,471

Docket No. Q81267

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references cited with the *Information Disclosure Statement* filed July 9, 2004.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-24 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claims 12-24 are hereby added. Claims 1-5 and 8-11 stand rejected.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 6 and 7 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant hereby rewrites claim 6 in independent form. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6 and 7 are immediately allowable.

Indefiniteness Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Regarding the Examiner's allegations: (1) that it is unclear how the "dimples" recited in claims 8-11 relate to the "numerous dimples" recited in claim 1; (2) that claim 9 is confusing, Applicants have amended the claim set in a clarifying, non-limiting manner.

Regarding the Examiner's allegation that claim 10 is contradicted by the Figures of the Application, Applicants respectfully disagree, as the curvilinear edge elements may at least partially define the non-circular dimples, as shown in FIG. 13.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Anticipation Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by *Ogg* (US 6,290,615; hereinafter “*Ogg*”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ogg discloses projections 20 formed on a spherical surface 22, which together form bounded areas 44. However, bounded areas 44 are not dimples. In fact, *Ogg* specifically indicates that it is directed to a “non-dimpled golf ball” (see col. 3, lines 58-60; col. 1, lines 45-50; col. 5, lines 31-57).

In fact, *Ogg* is discussed on page 2 of the instant Application, as part of a discussion of the related art. The instant Application (see p. 2, 1st full par.) indicates that *Ogg* discloses:

a golf ball in which projections that extend out on a lattice (lattice members) are disposed over a smooth spherical surface, partitioning the surface into hexagonal shaped bounded areas and thereby enclosing land surfaces. However, the hexagonal shaped bounded areas delineated by the lattice members lie on a spherical surface having a center that coincides with the center of the ball and are not dimples, thus having a poor air resistance lowering effect.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that *Ogg* fails to generally teach or suggest any “dimple,” let alone the specific dimple that “is a depression which begins at apices of a pair of edges and extends through the lower end of each edge to the deepest part of the dimple at about the center thereof,” as recited in independent claim 1.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentable over the applied reference. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 2-5 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

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New Claims

Claims 12-24 are hereby added. Claims 5, 12 and 20 are fully supported by page 5, lines 26-32 of the specification. Claims 13 and 24 are fully supported by page 6, lines 12-13 of the Specification. Claims 14-17 and 19-22 are similar to original claims 2-5, but are dependent from amended claim 6. Claim 18 is respectfully submitted to be allowable by virtue of the features recited therein. Claims 12-17 and 19-24 are respectfully submitted to be allowable both by virtue of their dependency, and by virtue of the features recited therein.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-24 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-24.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: July 29, 2005